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**APPLICANTS**  
 Hiroyuki Ogawa, Sunnyvale, CA;  
 Yider Wu, Campbell, CA;  
 Nian Yang, Mountain View, CA;  
 Kuo-Tung Chang, Saratoga, CA;  
 Yu Sun, Saratoga, CA;

**\*\* CONTINUING DATA \*\*\*\*\*** *NONE*

**\*\* FOREIGN APPLICATIONS \*\*\*\*\*** *NONE*

**IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED**  
**\*\* 06/24/2004**

Foreign Priority claimed <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no 35 USC 119 (a-d) conditions <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> Met after met Verified and Acknowledged Examiner's Signature <i>[Signature]</i> Initials <i>h</i>	<b>STATE OR COUNTRY</b> CA	<b>SHEETS DRAWING</b> 7	<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b> 22	<b>INDEPENDENT CLAIMS</b> 3
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**ADDRESS**  
 WAGNER, MURABITO & HAO LLP  
 TWO NORTH MARKET STREET  
 THIRD FLOOR  
 SAN JOSE, CA95113

**TITLE**  
 Semiconductor device having a pad metal layer and a lower metal layer that are electrically coupled, whereas apertures are formed in the lower metal layer below a center area of the pad metal layer

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